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Letter dated 9 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 8 February 2001, I have the honour to draw your attention to new massive violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 31 January, 1, 5, 7, 11, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24 and 25 February and 1, 13, 16, 19, 22, 24, 28 March 2001.

On 31 January and 1 February, two CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on 1 February to the FIR of Ankara.

On 5 February, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, Mesaoria and Famagusta, before returning to the FIR of Ankara. On the same day, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 7 February, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-160 aircraft returned later on the same day and entered once again the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 11 February, 10 F-16, one C-160, one C-130 and two CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

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(a) Ten F-16 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards a southeastern direction;

(b) One C-160, one C-130 and one CN-235 military aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(c) One CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) and patrolling in a search-and-rescue mission before exiting.

On 16 February, 10 F-16, two CN-235, one C-130 and one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Ten F-16 military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) One C-160, one C-130 and one CN-235 military aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(c) One CN-235 aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) and patrolling in a search-and-rescue mission before exiting.

On 19 February, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 20 February, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 21 February, one C-650 and one C-130 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 aircraft returned from the same direction, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 and 25 February, one GLF-4 and one C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The GLF-4 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a southern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(b) The C-650 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 1 March, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 aircraft coming afterwards from the same direction, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 13 March, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction.

On 16 March, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 March, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 22 March, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On the same day, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 March, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 returned from the same direction, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 28 March, 18 F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before taking part in the military manoeuvres code-named "Cevik Pence" and returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above actions, which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their cessation. I would like to note that these violations are taking place at a time when the international community expects the Turkish side to reverse its decision not to attend the next round of negotiations under

your auspices and to withdraw its unacceptable preconditions for the continuation of the talks. The Government of Turkey should abide by the Charter of the United Nations and respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, and contribute towards a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotos **Zackheos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative